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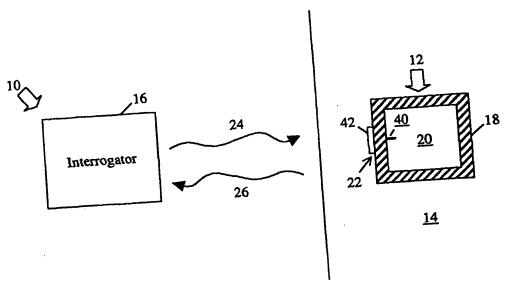
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(54) Title: MEASURING STRAIN IN A STRUCTURE (BRIDGE) WITH A (TEMPERATURE COMPENSATED) ELECTRO-MAGNETIC RESONATOR (MICROWAVE CAVITY)



(57) Abstract: The system (10) comprises a sensor (18) 90x90x90x30 mm as an electromagnetic microwave cavity (20) with a coupler (22) with a wire (40) and an antenna (42). Cavity (20) produces a response signal (26) in response to an interrogation signal (24) from interrogator (16). Sensor (18) is coupled to a structure (14) to allow a strain to alter the resonance properties. 3.6 GHz is used with a detection of a 2.5 kHz change. If not temperature via strain is detected a mechanical amplifier is used with cavity (20) for temperature compensation. Continuous or intermittent narrowband signals are used as interrogation signals (24). Used with bridges for structural health monitoring. Also for aircrafts, dams, buildings, vehicles.



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E01D19/00 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01L1/25 G01E G01D5/48 G01M19/00 G01B15/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B. FIELDS SEARCHED GO1B GO1M GO1D EO1D GO1L IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1,17 GB 2 212 273 A (MR. FARLEY) 19 July 1989 (1989-07-19) A claim 1; figure 1 25 FR 2 700 846 A (MR. BRUGIDOU) 29 July 1994 (1994-07-29) χ page 1, line 6 - line 15 page 3, line 9 - line 19; claim 1; figure JP 60 203828 A (TOSHIBA) 15 October 1985 (1985-10-15) Α figures 1-4 JP 05 264474 A (DAIPOOLE) 12 October 1993 (1993-10-12) figures 1-4 -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the X Special categories of cited documents: *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" earlier document but published on or after the international *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or *&* document member of the same patent family document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 01/10/2003 17 September 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 European Falem Onice, F.D. 3010 Falemas NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax. (+31–70) 340–3016 Mielke, W

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